Regarding non scheduled drugs, Government expects the industry to make corresponding reduction in prices and keeps watch on the movement of the prices. Since there are more than 250 drug units in the organised sector and about 8,000 units in the small scale sector manufacturing a large number of bulk drugs and several thousands of formulations not under price control, it is not possible to intensively monitor the impact of custom duty concessions in this sector. However, in regard to any glaring intances that come to the notice of the Government, necessary remedial steps are taken.

Imported and indigenous bulk drugs

1894. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 1984 given in the Rajya Sabha on 11th March, 1993 and state:

(a) how the ratio parameter between usage of imported and indigenous bulk drugs encourage the basic production of bulk drugs;

(b) whether usage of imported and indigenous raw materials instead of bulk drugs is not taken as a base for the purpose of this parameter for encouraging basic production; if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is a fact that the parameter which is presently being followed is baseless and does not encourage basic production of bulk drugs due to value adjustments, purchases of imported bulk drugs locally and other relevant adjustments; and

(d) the steps being taken to look at the whole matter afresh so that effective parameter could be laid down?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) The ratio parameter between the usage of imported and indigenous bulk drugs limits the dependence on imports by stipulating that consumption of imported bulk drugs should not exceed 50 per cent of the value of the indigenous bulk drugs consumed. This encourages the indigenous production of bulk drugs, which can be manufactured in the organised sector only from the basic stages prescribed by Government in the Industrial approvals.

(b) Since Government's aim in the Drug Policy is to encourage the indigenous production of bulk drugs, their consumption is taken as the base for the purpose of this parameter.

(c) and (d) Ratio parameters have been in existence since 1978. The growth in bulk drug production since then indicates that the Government policies have given a thrust to bulk drug manufacture. India has emerged as a leading bulk drug manufacturer in the international arena, capable of meeting 65 per cent — 70 per cent of the country's requirements.

Writing off of amount due from IDPL and HAL

1895. SHRI ANANT RAM JAISWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Starred Question 221 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 11th March, 1993 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that amount due from IDPL, HAL and Government opium and Alkaloid Works into DPEA have been written off;

(b) the reasons for not recovering Government dues before making payment from DPEA to IDPL and HAL and whether any financial clearance was obtained before doing so;

(c) the reasons for which undue benefit of over 1 crore of rupees has been given on Codeline Phosphate;

(d) what are the details thereof and officers involved in this regard; and

(e) the reasons for not furnishing the names of Government Opium and Alkaloid works in the list of companies?